

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, April 21, 2008 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Miranda led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Bunting, Candioly, Endo-Roberts,  
Miranda, Rische, Strehler, and Chairperson Smisek.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Community Services Director Jones,  
Cultural Services Manager Rappoport, and  
Senior Recreation Supervisor Bell.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Strehler moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Endo-Roberts seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2008**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Rische moved for the approval of the February 26, 2008 joint meeting with City Council minutes as submitted and the March 17, 2008 Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Strehler seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**6. ON-GOING BUSINESS**

**6A. NONPROFIT ARTS GRANTS UPDATE**

Community Services Director Jones introduced new Cultural Services Manager Eve Rappoport.

Cultural Services Manager Rappoport announced that grant applications are due on May 8, 2008 and that they will then be forwarded to Commissioner Smisek, Chair of the Grant Review Committee.

**6B. 2008 EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARDS – MAY 10, 2008**

Cultural Services Manager Rappoport announced the Excellence in Arts Awards ceremony on May 10, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in the Toyota Meeting Hall. She distributed invitations, presentation line up, and scripts for the Commissioners to follow at the ceremony.

**6C. FOLLOW-UP TO JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL**

Referring to a Commission recommendation made at the March 17, 2008 meeting, Community Services Director Jones advised that staff would prepare an item for City Council requesting to increase the non-profit grant to \$10,000.

Staff advised that General Services was in the process of planning signage improvements for the Torrance Art Museum.

Community Services Director Jones recommended that Commissioners review the initial design concepts for the proposed Wilson Park amphitheater. He requested that they consider scaling it back in size and scope to a smaller footprint to better fit the environment. He suggested that Commissioners encourage art groups to provide input on the types of usages they would be interested in.

Chairperson Smisek noted that Torrance Art Museum and Torrance Theatre Company were hurt by the withdrawal of support from the Cultural Arts Center Foundation.

Community Services Director Jones responded that existing and projected budgets needed to be reviewed in order to identify strategies to address the gaps.

**7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**7A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS COMMITTEE**

Previously discussed.

**7B. FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

No report.

**7C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Community Services Director Jones recommended that the Committee schedule a meeting for the second week of May 2008 to review applications.

It was confirmed that Grant Review Committee members are Commissioners Candioly, Endo-Roberts, and Chairperson Smisek.

**8. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Cultural Services Manager Rappoport noted that the February 2008 Cultural Services Division Report and March 2008 Cultural Arts Center Report were included in the agenda material.

Cultural Services Consultant Powers announced the third event of "Works in Progress" on April 30, 2008.

**9. ORALS**

**9A.** Commissioner Rische stated that she enjoyed the photograph display at the Torrance Art Museum and that she was looking forward to seeing Ray Bradbury on May 30, 2008.

**9.B.** Commissioner Bunting stated that she enjoyed visiting Brood Contemporary Art Museum, UCLA's Hammer Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art, and Chinatown galleries.

**9C.** Commissioner Strehler recommended that Kentaro Sato, nominee for an award in the category of Music, be encouraged to reapply again next year.

**9D.** Commissioner Strehler stated that she enjoyed the Max Ernst exhibition at the Contemporary Arts Gallery in Seillans, Provence, France.

**9E.** Commissioner Endo-Roberts stated that she enjoyed the play "Nihonmachi" as well as "Phantom of the Opera" at the Orange County Performing Arts Center.

**9F.** Commissioner Miranda stated that his stepdaughter performed at the House of Blues in Universal City and that he enjoyed his trip to Tennessee.

**9G.** Community Services Director Jones distributed the new Torrance Seasons.

**9H.** Cultural Services Manager Rappoport announced Torrance Civic Chorale's "Choral Music of Sea & Land" on April 26, 2008 at the Armstrong Theatre.

**9I.** Chairperson Smisek encouraged Commissioners to attend the Bunka Sai Festival on April 25-26, 2008 and the operating budget public hearings on May 6 and 13, 2008.

**9J.** Commissioner Rische stated that requiring Commissioners to attend Commissioner Training sessions every two years was ridiculous and Community Services Director Jones advised that it may be extended to every four years.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 7:48 p.m., Commissioner Candioly moved to adjourn the meeting to Tuesday, May 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall. Commissioner Bunting seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Smisek so ordered.

Approved as Submitted May 19, 2008 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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